



April 2004

• Legislative Update

-Oversight Hearing on the National Heritage Areas-On Tuesday March 30, Deputy Director of the National Park Service Randy Jones testified at an oversight hearing before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on National Parks and offered proposed legislation to establish a National Heritage Areas Program. This legislative proposal addresses the longstanding need identified in a recent General Accounting Office (GAO) report to provide criteria for evaluating new heritage area, standards for planning and guidance on National Park Service assistance. At the hearing Barry Hill, Director of Natural Resources and the Environment at GAO presented their findings that the NPS does not have a systematic process for establishing and monitoring national heritage areas. The testimony did note that national heritage areas have leveraged significant amounts of other funding and have not affected the rights of private property owners.

Other witnesses at the hearing included Augie Carlino, President and CEO of the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area and Chair of the Alliance of National Heritage Areas, Ted Sanderson, State Historic Preservation Officer for Rhode Island and President of the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Offices, Dr. Lisa Benton-Short, Assistant Professor of Geography at George Washington University, Dennis Frenchman, Department of Urban Planning, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Carol LaGrasse, President of the Property Rights Foundation of America, Inc.

The Department of Interior's **press release** on this important legislative initiative is attached to this newsletter, and posted on the NPS Digest website at <http://www.npsdigest.gov/headline.cfm?type=PressReleases&id=474&urlarea=npsnews>. Please distribute to others who would be interested. To read the **testimonies** of NPS and the other six witnesses visit the Senate Energy Committee's web site at <http://energy.senate.gov/hearings/witnesslist.cfm?id=1128>. To review or download the **GAO report** visit <http://www.gao.gov> and scroll down to number 4 under "testimonies," report number **GAO-04-593T**. Finally, **draft legislation for a National Heritage Partnerships Program** is attached, or visit <http://www.cr.nps.gov/heritageareas/> to download.

• This Month in the Heritage Areas

-The Cane River National Heritage Area, in cooperation with NPS Denver Service Center and a host of other partners, has won the American Planning Association's (APA) Federal Planning Division (FPD) 2004 award for *Outstanding Collaborative Planning Project* for its Management Plan. This award is a great achievement that reflects the hard work and spirit of cooperation that Cane River NHA and its partners invested in this effort. The award will be presented in Washington, DC on Friday, April 23. To read more about the award received by Cane River, visit <http://65.23.142.31/resources/awards-04.htm>.



a tour of the new Augusta Canal Interpretive Center and a ride on a replica of a Petersburg canal boat.

-Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton visited the **Augusta Canal National Heritage Area** last month to recognize the City of Augusta's recent designation as a Preserve America Community. She also presented certificates of designation to five other Georgia Cities and one county as Preserve America Communities. This marked the first occasion where the designation ceremony was located outside of Washington. Of the 34 communities now designated, 7 are in GA. Secretary Norton's visit included

• Upcoming Events and Conferences: Mark your Calendars

- **Heritage Development Institute Courses:** Wednesday, September 29, 2004, Louisville, KY: 9-2.30p at the National Trust for Historic Preservation Annual Conference—*The Basics of Heritage Areas: Getting Started*.

-A basics course will be held during September 2004 in Montana and an advanced course will be held this fall in New England. For information on future Heritage Development Institute courses or register for an upcoming workshop, visit www.cr.nps.gov/heritageareas/hdi.htm, email spj2d@mtsu.edu or call 615.898.2947.

- April 26-27, 2004: **Preservation Training for Facilities Managers and Staff Workshop** at the historic and picturesque Presidio of San Francisco, designed to enhance the ability of facility managers and staff to be effective stewards of our nation's significant historic resources. Attendance is limited to 50 in order to allow for lively discussion. Early bird discount registration is \$125. For more information, visit <http://www.nps.gov/phso/conferences/>. The proceedings of the first "Preservation Training for Facility Managers & Staff Workshop" held at Princeton in October 2003 are also posted to this website.

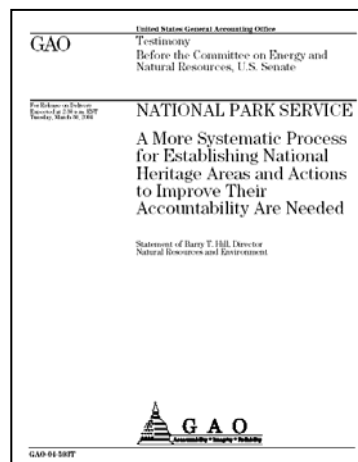
-June 5-8, **2005**, Nashville, TN: **International Heritage Development Conference**, sponsored by the Alliance of National Heritage areas and hosted by the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area. For more information, visit <http://histpres.mtsu.edu/tncivwar>

• Publications

-Visit <http://www.cr.nps.gov/heritageareas/> to view or download the report by the General Accounting Office (GAO) on the National Heritage Areas, as well as a press release of the March 30 oversight hearing, NPS Deputy Director Randy Jones' testimony, and draft program legislation.

• Press releases, events, and awards

-**American Planning Association** awarded the 2004 Public Education Award to the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation for its publication of *Reading the Land — Massachusetts Heritage Landscapes: A*



Guide to Identification and Protection, a tool to guide residents in identifying, documenting and planning for the future of the heritage landscapes that are significant to them. To request a copy of this publication, visit <http://www.state.ma.us/dem/programs/histland/orderForm.pdf>.

-New Preserve America Communities: On March 18, twenty new Preserve America Communities were named and recognized for preserving historic landmarks and promoting heritage tourism. This designation enhances the communities' visibility, may boost tourism, and helps them compete for some of the \$10 million that President Bush has proposed spending next year to promote historic preservation as a means to economic development. The recipients are: Virginia--Smithfield, Williamsburg; Arizona--White Mountain Apache Reservation; California--Fresno; Florida--Fort Myers; Illinois--Rock Island; Michigan--Douglas, Grand Rapids and Saugatuck; Mississippi--Biloxi, Hattiesburg, Pascagoula, Port Gibson; Montana--Virginia City; Rhode Island--Bristol, Cranston, and Warren; Tennessee--Franklin; Vermont--Burlington; and Wyoming--Cheyenne.

● Promotional Opportunities

-Travel Industry of America (TIA) has unveiled a *See America's National Parks Promotion Campaign* to support and promote the NPS system, gateways and surrounding regions. For five free ways to promote your area in connection with a unit of the national park system, visit <http://www.tia.org/marketing/default.asp>. Send news releases and story ideas related to your heritage area's activities with a NPS unit to TIA for inclusion on their website, <http://www.seeamerica.org/>, and in their monthly media newsletter. For more information, contact Mike Pina, TIA Manager of Public Relations and Communications at mpina@tia.org, or call 202.408.2137.

● Upcoming Deadlines: Grants, awards, conference paper sessions, publications

-National Association of Interpretation Media Awards: The National Association for Interpretation annually awards notable interpretive media projects at their national interpreter's workshop. For more information and an application, visit <http://www.interpnet.org/pdf/mediaawards04.pdf> or open the attached application. Deadline is May 31, 2004.

Silos and Smokestacks won 2nd place in 2002 for Camp Silos, a place-based education website for students and teachers. Their website address is <http://www.campsilos.org>.

-17th National Trails Symposium, October 21-24, 2004: American Trails is calling for proposals for this year's symposium, entitled *The Emerging Role of Trails in American Lifestyles*. For details and a submission form, visit

<http://www.magnetmail.net/images/clients/AmTrails/attach/CallforPresentations04Final.doc>. The deadline for submitting proposals is May 7, 2004. For the most current information on the Symposium, available soon, and for hotel reservation information, visit the American Trails website at www.americantrails.org. Or, contact Dr. John Collins, Program Chair, Department of Kinesiology, Health Promotion, and Recreation, Denton, TX 76203, (940) 565-3422, Collins@coe.unt.edu.



- **On the Road**

In March, your editors presented at the **US/ICOMOS conference** in the Cane River National Heritage Area in Natchitoches, LA on the heritage areas strategy, current challenges, and defining and measuring success in heritage areas. A CD is available of symposium papers. To learn more, visit the NPS digest at <http://www.npsdigest.gov/headline.cfm?type=Announcements&id=2190>.

- **For more information on the heritage areas, visit our [website](#).**

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- Past issues available at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/heritageareas/rep/bb.htm>

- To subscribe or unsubscribe, send an email to suzanne_copping@contractor.nps.gov